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BOOK REVIEWS

American Charities. By AMOS G. WARNER. New Edition, revised and enlarged by MARY ROBERTS COOLIDGE, with a biographical preface by G. E. Howard. New York: T. Y. Crowell & Co., 1908. 8vo, pp. xxii+510.

This new edition is much more than a re-issue of an established book. The fourteen years which have elapsed since Professor Warner wrote his *American Charities* have seen notable changes in the methods of charitable investigation and relief, and an accumulation of evidence such as was before unattainable. Professor Warner's work, as its reviser remarks, has no doubt been one of the causes of this progress in making charity scientific; but in consequence of the progress the work has lost in serviceableness as a guide to the understanding of actual conditions, and has become in many respects obsolete. It is pleasant, therefore, to meet it in its new form, brought once more into touch with the present by Mrs. Coolidge, the author's pupil, colleague, and friend, whom he had designated before his untimely death as the person by whom he should wish it to be revised if a second edition ever were required.

Certain changes in the book are at once apparent. It is thicker by nearly a hundred pages. New matter has been introduced. This is conspicuous in the biographical preface; in the bibliography, expanded to twenty-six pages, and in the interpolated chapter on the *Facts and Conditions of Poverty*, dealing with the ultimate objective and external causes of which disordered states of individual and family life are but the visible symptoms. Changes on a smaller scale include, to take only examples, an extended discussion of inebriety and sexual vice; considerably greater fulness of treatment of almshouses, and the recasting of the old chapter on the organizing of charities, to conform to a different schematization of charitable agencies. Throughout recent statistical matter has been used to supplement or replace the old, and compactly digested opinions on fact or method have been added or substituted in large variety. The thoroughness of the editing shows itself also in a consistent attempt to make clear the logical sequence of the book by frequent changes in paragraphing and in the titles of chapters, partly because of the inclusion of the new matter, but partly, no doubt, because the haste in which the book was originally written led to impetuous disregard of the lesser mechanisms of exposition. The most sweeping of these changes of order is the inclusion, after a pruning process, of Warner's well-known chapter on *Charity as a Factor in Human Selection* in the opening chapter of the book, the caption of which consequently is changed from *Philanthropy and Economics in the Past to Philanthropy and the Sciences*.

Mrs. Coolidge has been uniformly the editor and not the author. She has chosen not to introduce original constructive thinking of her own, and she has chosen wisely. Her work of revision has been comprehensive and devoted, but she has contrived that what she has brought to the book should be absorbed into the interstices of its original fabric. The individuality and the personality of

the first edition in high degree remain. Here and there, it is true, one feels that genius has been smothered in facts. But the work has gained in usefulness for those whose interest or occupation in charities is practical; and in its larger usefulness Professor Warner's thoughtful and hopeful message has been given new life.

J. A. FIELD

Consanguineous Marriages in the American Population. By GEORGE B. LOUIS ARNER. Columbia University Studies in History, Economics, and Public Law, Vol. XXXI, No. 3. New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1908. 8vo, pp. 99.

Dr. Arner disclaims any intention to put forward this essay as an exhaustive or final treatment of the subject. What he has done is to assemble and present an array of evidence already published by other investigators; to amplify it by new material of his own gathering, most of which is taken from systematic genealogical records, and to subject all to critical scrutiny. The original material is not in amount adequate for valid statistical analysis, but it is useful as a check on other data because the nature of its sources makes it unusually free from the bias which results from unconscious selection of cases where consanguineous marriage has been followed by pathological and therefore conspicuous results. In the outcome of his inquiry Dr. Arner takes the familiar conservative position that the influence exercised on offspring by the marriage of near kin is only a special result of ordinary principles of inheritance. The greater observed frequency of such congenital defects as idiocy, blindness, and deafness among children of nearly related parents can be sufficiently explained as due to the fact that where there exists a corresponding defect in the ancestry it is doubly likely to appear, and likely to appear in aggravated form, in descendants who may inherit it from a common source through both parents. If this is the true nature of the phenomenon it would seem likely that abnormal ability may in much the same way be intensified in children of consanguineous marriages. If there is no abnormal ancestry, the marriage of kinsfolk would be indifferent. Such conclusions as these are applied in the course of the book to American conditions, yet hardly to the extent or with the new or important results that the title might imply. The discrepancy is doubtless one result of that limitation in the scope of the work which the author acknowledges. Within the limits of its scope the book is interesting and intelligently done.

India and the Empire. By M. DE P. WEBB. London: Longmans, Green & Co., 1908. 8vo, pp xxiv+198.

The two main objects of this volume, as stated by the author, are: "(1) to briefly present the case for tariff reform and preferential trade in a somewhat new garb; and (2), more particularly, to exhibit the true position and strength of India and the great importance of her assuming a leading part in the rising movement for imperial tariff revision." At the start the author advances the proposition that, granted a state of peace, the four conditions essential to wealth creation are demand, labor, material, and capital. Demand is by far the most important of these for "in the kindling of wants and desires, in the creation